LIFE IN NATURE ON LAKE MICHIGAN

New Buffalo Times

NEWS $1

THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF NEW BUFFALO, MICHIGAN • SINCE 1942

CHICAGO • LONG BEACH • MICHIANA SHORES • GRAND BEACH • NEW BUFFALO • UNION PIER • THREE OAKS • LAKESIDE • HARBERT • SAWYER

issue 52, volume 82 www.newbuffalotimes.com Thursday, December 28, 2023

Local students reach out to fellow families **PAGE 3**

Berrien County Health Department announces hearing and vision screening clinic for homeschoolers and virtual **PAGE 4**

Three Oaks historic street clock to wind into new century at dedication festivity **PAGE 5**

Southwest Michigan Regional Chamber announces 2024 Business Recognition Award nominees **PAGE 5**

Students spread holiday cheer during annual concert **PAGE 8**

HAVE A HAPPY HAPPY...

STUDENTS GRACE THE STAGE FOR ANNUAL TALENT SHOW

— PAGE 6 —

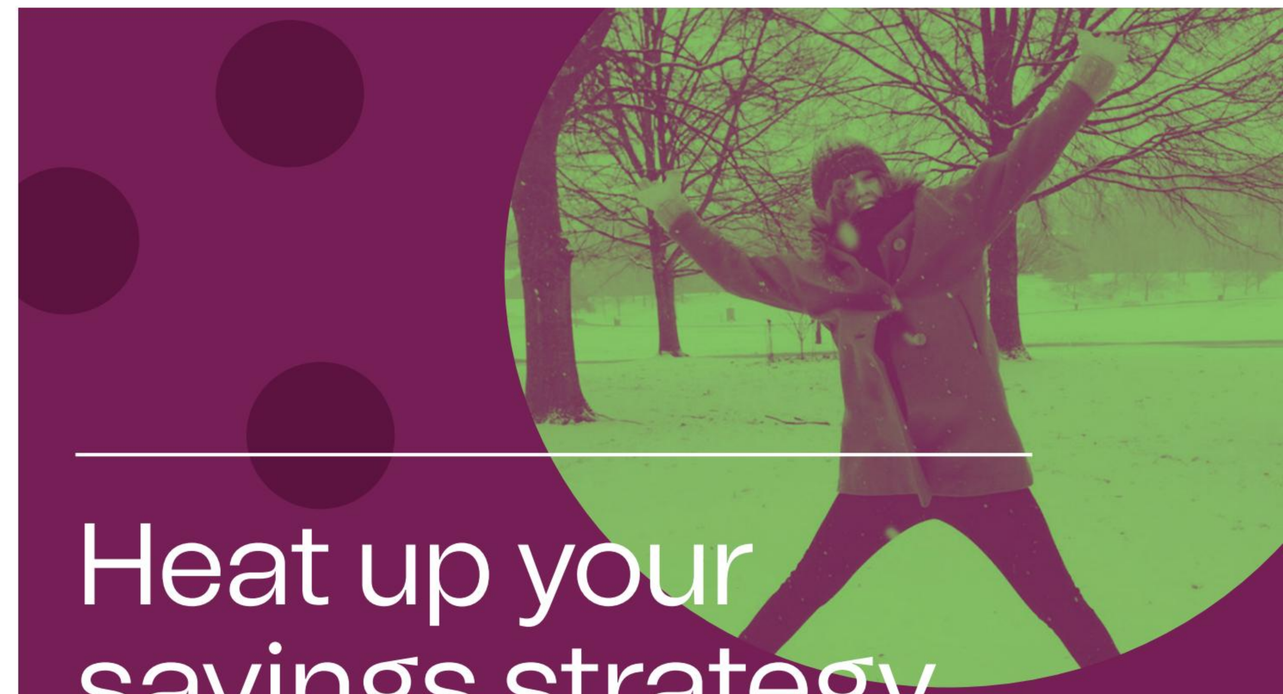
PHOTO OF AARON JOSEPH PLAYING CRAZY TRAIN ON HIS TROMBONE

PEDEGO®
ELECTRIC BIKES

GIVE THE GIFT OF
FUN
WITH OUR RED RIBBON
HOLIDAY SALE
PedegoHarborCountry.com
425 S. Whittaker St, New Buffalo, MI

30 N Whittaker St
Deli by day
David's
delicatessen & coffee
·NEW BUFFALO· ·MICHIGAN·
Open 6 days
davidsdeliandcoffee.com

30 N Whittaker St
Bar by night
the FALSE FRONT
NEW BUFFALO · MI
Open Thursday-Monday
thefalsefrontbar.com



Heat up your savings strategy.
Earn more with great rates on certificates.
everwisecu.com/certificates
everwise
CREDIT UNION
Federally insured by NCUA. Subject to membership requirements.

Your Neighbors in New Buffalo, MI
Sal & Allison Q.
Your Ford Dealer in Countryside, IL
We Appreciate Your Business
westfield
est. 1985 countryside
Ford
Established 1985
www.westfieldford.com
6200 S. La Grange Road Countryside, IL 60525
708-354-8600 · Ask for Carm, Nick S. or Michael Q.

New Buffalo Times
LOCAL INTELLIGENCE
— SINCE 1942 —

ETHICS
SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISM
MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION MEMBER

PROPRIETOR
NEW BUFFALO TIMES, INC.

EDITOR
NEW BUFFALO TIMES INTELLIGENCE
EDITORIAL BOARD

CREATIVE DIRECTOR
JOE DURK

REPORTERS/WRITERS
THERESE DONNELLY
FRANCESCA SAGALA
LAWRENCE VON EBELER
KURT MARGGRAF
ALEXANDER FATOUROS
SOPHIA R. FATOUROS
STAN MADDUX
KRISTIN E. FATOUROS
NEW BUFFALO TIMES INTELLIGENCE
NEW BUFFALO TIMES POLITICS
GUESTS

QUOTES
DINO N. FATOUROS

PROOFING
FRANCESCA SAGALA

BROADCAST/ADVERTISING
JANINE ADAMSKI (630) 370-0820
OR JANINEADAMSKI@GMAIL.COM

SUGGESTIONS, CRITICISM, IDEAS
MEDIA@NEWBUFFALOTIMES.COM

ADVERTISING
MEDIA@NEWBUFFALOTIMES.COM

CLASSIFIED ADS
CLASSIFIEDS@NEWBUFFALOTIMES.COM

SUBSCRIPTIONS
SUBSCRIPTIONS@NEWBUFFALOTIMES.COM

COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY
WITH NEW BUFFALO TIMES
INFO@NEWBUFFALOTIMES.COM

Periodical Postage paid in
New Buffalo, MI. Postmaster,
please send address changes to

NEW BUFFALO TIMES
PO BOX 369, New Buffalo, MI 49117

©2023 NEW BUFFALO TIMES, INC.
PUBLICATION NUMBER 377960
CIRCULATION 5,000+ WEEKLY

NEW BUFFALO TIMES distribution:
Milda's Corner Market • Customs Imports
Sawyer Garden Center • The Whistle Stop
David's Delicatessen • Grand Variety
Barney's • Knoll Bros. • Stray Dog
Infusco Coffee Roasters
Black Currant Bakehouse
The Marina Grand • Redamak's
Outpost Sports • Big C Lumber
Between Casey's and Nancy's
Sawyer Hardware • The Harbor Grand
Froehlics . Three Oaks
Journeyman Distillery . Three Oaks
The Acorn Theater . Three Oaks
The Lakeside Inn

For the most convenient location, you can subscribe to get the *NEW BUFFALO TIMES* in your mailbox or inbox. Please email us for E-TIMES, info@newbuffalotimes.com.

Local students reach out to fellow families

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

Two groups of students at New Buffalo High School ensured that area families enjoyed a holiday feast, as well as gifts, this past Christmas season.

Members of the Pokagon Youth Advisory Council delivered food baskets to families within the school district. Meanwhile, members of the student senate delivered baskets laden with toys as well as clothing through their annual Holiday Giving Campaign.

Lauren Gradowski, a member of the youth advisory council, said that the students applied for a $5,000 grant from The Pokagon Fund and worked with Barney's in New Buffalo to inventory what nonperishable items they could buy for that amount of money.

"Within the youth advisory council, we created a list of things that could go into a dinner but also some things that could go home with family to have around for the rest of break, day to day - breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks...We wanted them to not have to worry about that during the holiday season," she said.

The group packed 22 baskets, all of which were distributed before Christmas. Everything was packaged in the room of Hilary Cunningham, the district's social worker, so she could distribute them to the appropriate families.

"This was really cool because I knew it's directly benefiting people from our school and their families," Gradowski said.

The high school's main office also budgeted for each family to get $20 gas cards, so they could visit family.

Member Nick Haskins said they felt good ensuring that everyone was well-stocked for Christmas.

"I think everyone in the group feels good about helping the people in need and making sure every person, every family, has the necessary things during their holiday," he said.

Members of the Pokagon Youth Advisory Council stand with their food baskets

Student Senate members shop for their Gift Giving Campaign

In addition to this year's food baskets, council members also provide T-shirts, sweatshirts, pants and other basic items of clothing in all sizes to the Bison Closet. The clothing is kept in Cunningham's office for students who may need it throughout the day.

Member Ava Johnson said that The Pokagon Fund funds the council's projects.

Whenever students have an idea for a project, they write a proposal or a grant to The Pokagon Fund.

"They approve it and give us a budget for it and we work around that," she said.

Addie Lamport serves as the student ambassador on The Pokagon Fund.

Johnson was also a part of the student senate's Holiday Giving Campaign.

"We just meet at Kohls and we kind of pick a paper with a nameless student which has their age and then their needs and wants," she said.

The students are given a budget set by the school for the long standing project. Students also provide each family with a blanket and a popcorn bucket and a bunch of popcorn for a movie night, along with the Christmas presents for the children. This year, students packed around 10 baskets.

Since they're choosing clothing and toys, Johnson said that their selections can be personalized.

"I just think it's really cool to support people who we know go to this school and we know who they really are," she said.

Lots of times, families have multiple children, so students get a variety of ages on their papers.

"It's really cool to see whole families being helped," Johnson said.

Jackson Neubauer, who was also a part of both groups, said he enjoyed ensuring families were taken care of over the holidays.

"Some families aren't able to buy stuff for Christmas and kids to have stuff to open up for Christmas - and food is really helpful, since some families can't afford that," he said.

Students apply to serve on the senate, with advisors Amy Quick and Beth Scoggin deciding who serves on it as well as the officers.

There are usually two co-presidents for each grade. This school year, every grade level has at least five representatives on the senate.

Senate members also hold a food drive at Thanksgiving, as well as plan activities for Homecoming and Winterfest and a spirit week before Christmas, the district's annual 5K that raises money for those who have been effected by cancer and the Empty Bowls dinner.

The great man is he who does not lose his child's-heart. — *Mencius*

Local Government Meetings

New Buffalo Times

Democracy Requires Transparency

CITY OF NEW BUFFALO
JOHN HUMPHREY, MAYOR
CITY COUNCIL
MARK ROBERTSON, ROGER LIJESKI, JOHN HUMPHREY, BRIAN FLANAGAN, VANCE PRICE
City Council meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30PM
CITY OF NEW BUFFALO PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS
Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 5:30PM
NEW BUFFALO TOWNSHIP BOARD
PETE RAHM, MICHELLE HEIT, JUDY H. ZABICKI, PATTY IAZZETTO, JACK ROGERS
Board meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 4PM
NEW BUFFALO TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:30PM
SHERIFF BERRIEN COUNTY
L. Paul Bailey, Sheriff
Chuck Heit, Undersheriff
NEW BUFFALO AREA RECREATIONAL AUTHORITY
Meets at 10AM on the 2nd Wednesday of every other month (odd) at New Buffalo Township Hall, 17425 Red Arrow Highway New Buffalo
NEW BUFFALO AREA SCHOOLS BOARD
LISA WERNER, JOHN HASKINS, DENISE CHURCHILL, BRADLEY BURNER, VANESSA THUN, STEPHEN DONNELLY, GREG VOSBERG
CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP
CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP BOARD
DAVID BUNTE, PAULA DUDIAK, LIZ RETTIG, RICHARD SULLIVAN, BILL MARSKE
Chikaming Board meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30PM
CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
Meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 6:30PM
THREE OAKS
THREE OAKS TOWNSHIP BOARD
Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7PM

VILLAGE OF THREE OAKS BOARD
Meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7PM
GRAND BEACH
Meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7PM
MARY ROBERTSON, CLERK
HARRY WALDER BLAKE O'HALLORAN, JAMES BRACEWELL, PETER DOERR, EDWARD BRANDES

MICHIANA
VILLAGE OF MICHIANA COUNCIL
Meets on the 2nd Friday of each month at 1PM

Berrien County Health Department announces hearing and vision screening clinic for homeschoolers and virtual

The Berrien County Health Department will offer a free hearing and vision screening clinic Wednesday, Jan. 3, for students in kindergarten through ninth grade who are homeschooled or attend school virtually.

\The walk-in clinic will take place from 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. at BCHD's Benton Harbor office, 2149 East Napier Avenue. The clinic is open to all Berrien County residents.

"The Berrien County Health Department's hearing and vision clinic for homeschoolers and virtual students helps expand access to these important screenings, which typically take place in traditional school settings," said Melisa Jordan, BCHD's hearing and vision coordinator. "The earlier we screen our children for hearing and vision, the better we can address any challenges to help ensure a future of success in the classroom and beyond."

The hearing screening takes two to three minutes and features six sounds for the child to identify. If any hearing issues are discovered, BCHD provides a referral for a hearing exam at the family's health care provider or the Berrien Springs Public Schools Hearing Center.

The vision screening takes up to five minutes and features a tumbling E chart, where the child is asked to tell or show the direction the "fingers" are pointing. If any vision issues are discovered, BCHD provides a referral for an eye exam at the family's eye doctor of choice.

No appointments are necessary. To find more information, visit bit.ly/BCHDHearingVision or contact Melisa Jordan at mjordan@bchdmi.org or 269.926.7121, ext. 5293. — STAFF REPORTS

I got a boss mentality.
— Lil Baby

TOWN SQUARE

LETTERS TO THE *NEW BUFFALO TIMES*:

THE VIEWS HERE DO NOT REPRESENT THE VIEWS OF THE *NEW BUFFALO TIMES*. THE *NEW BUFFALO TIMES* ASKS THAT YOUR LETTER TO THE *NEW BUFFALO TIMES*, BE UNIQUE, KIND AND BASED ON REASONED FACTS. THE *NEW BUFFALO TIMES* RESERVES THE RIGHT TO NOT PUBLISH ANY CORRESPONDENCE FOR ANY REASON. PLEASE KEEP YOUR LETTERS TO 300 WORDS OR FEWER. PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR NAME, PHONE NUMBER AND YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS. PLEASE EMAIL YOUR LETTER TO INFO@NEWBUFFALOTIMES.COM. THANK YOU.

New Buffalo Times
LOCAL INTELLIGENCE
— SINCE 1942 —

ALL MY BEST...

I'm writing to inform you of my retirement from my position of New Buffalo Township Clerk effective January 1st, 2024.

I believe I have served my Township well and am proud of what the Township has accomplished over the years especially with Elections.

New Buffalo Township has taken great strides in serving it's residents and being good stewards. Here are just some of the things the Township Board has done:

- Redone the Marster Plan
- Redone Zoning Ordinance and Map
- Placed all Township Easements on GIS mapping
- Michigan Shores Water Project
- Acquired Pleasure Isle Marina
- Codified all of the Ordinances
- New Exit 1 Monument Sign & Bridge
- Worked with the BC Road Department to redo Union Pier
- New Linear Bike Path along Red Arrow and rebuilding Red Arrow
- Brought the Marquette Greenway from Chicago to New Buffalo to fruition (work beginning this Spring)
- Built the New Public Safety Building
- Short term rental Ordinance, Permitting and enforcement
- Marihuana Ordinance and Permitting
- Building a Cemetery Data Base with the City

I am looking forward to my retirement and spending more time with my family.

I thank you all for working with me these past years.

I wish the new clerk all the best in her endeavors. She has a big job on her hands with the February Presidential Primary, August Primary, November General Election and all the new laws and election procedures, but she is more than qualified to handle the job. The next 4 years will be ever changing in this realm. Please support your new clerk in everything she encounters as you did with me. I'm sure she will be successful as she moves forward with the Township, County & State to serve the residents of our community.

— JUDITH HANDLEY ZABICKI,
NEW BUFFALO TOWNSHIP CLERK,
2000-2004 & 2016-2023

THREE OAKS HISTORIC STREET CLOCK TO WIND INTO NEW CENTURY AT DEDICATION FESTIVITY

Three Oaks Township Public Library invites the public to attend a ribbon cutting ceremony conducted by the Harbor Country Chamber of Commerce at 5 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 11, to dedicate and mark the many years to come for the Electric Time Clock model.

Since the mid 1980s, many people have strolled past the glowing street clock in downtown Three Oaks and set their watch. The Bank of Three Oaks erected the model in front of the turn of the century building. When the Three Oaks Township Public Library moved into the historic site, they became the curators of the clock. Over the years, its lustrous light dimmed and a manual reset of gears was necessary to keep the time piece precisely ticking.

Since the clock is a cherished village landmark, the library board made it a priority to refurbish the icon. Now, thanks to a new century upgrade, the numbered face is lit with LED bulbs and displays the exact time with a digital heart. The beacon once again shines brightly at 3 N. Elm Street and will continue to make pace with the pulse of the community for many years.

After celebrating the community timepiece, all are invited to enjoy a slice of celebration cake and sample a glass of wine with cheese pairing at the festivity to be held in the library's community room.

For more information about the Three Oaks Township Public Library, visit www.threeoaks.michlibrary.org or call 269-756-5621. — STAFF REPORTS

Southwest Michigan Regional Chamber announces 2024 Business Recognition Award nominees

The Southwest Michigan Regional Chamber is proud to announce the nominees for their annual Business Recognition Awards Ceremony and Annual Meeting, presented by ABC 57 News, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, Corewell Health, Honor Credit Union, Mid-West Family of Southwest Michigan, and MoodyontheMarket.com, Friday, Feb. 16.

"We continue to be in awe of the businesses and individuals nominated for our Recognition Awards," said Arthur Havlicek, president & CEO of the Regional Chamber. "Their stories of growth, overcoming obstacles and passion for our community continues to inspire. We look forward to celebrating them and sharing their stories."

The 2024 Award Nominees are:

BUSINESS FOCUSED:

BEST NEW BUSINESS
- Eclectic Well-Being
- The Little Things Play Cafe
- Mighty Dog Roofing
- Sticky Spoons Jam
- The Swab Agency – Farm Bureau Insurance

ECONOMIC IMPACT AWARD
- Express Employment Professionals
- Indiana Michigan Power
- Lane Automotive
- Midwest Energy & Communications

SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARD
- B&L Information Systems
- Coloma/St. Joseph KOA Holiday
- Hinman Counseling Services
- Peat's Cider Social

NON-PROFIT OF THE YEAR AWARD
- Backpacks for Berrien
- Krasl Art Center
- LOGAN Autism Learning Center
- Readiness Center
- Silver Beach Center
- Southwest Michigan Community Action Agency

INDIVIDUAL FOCUSED:

RISING STAR AWARD
- Megan Gopp, The Adventure Agency
- Justin "Juice" Koehneke, Watermark Brewing Company
- Chokwe Pitchford, Berrien County Commissioner
- Samantha Smith, Tranquil Tummy Confections
- Matt Swab, The Swab Agency – Farm Bureau Insurance

THE PAT MOODY AWARD
- Burt Pearson, Pearson Construction Company
- Anne Reitz, Caffe Tosi
- Roger Seely, Roger's Foodland
- Jim "Jimbo" Shelton, Shelton's Farm Market

In keeping with tradition, the chamber will also recognize one of their ambassadors as their 2023 Ambassador of the Year.

Tickets for the 2024 Business Recognition Breakfast Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony at the Lake Michigan College Mendel Center's Grand Upton Hall are available online at bit.ly/2024BRB. Early Bird pricing of $55 each or $450 for a table of 10 runs through Jan. 31.

Attendees will hear a special Keynote from internationally acclaimed leadership speaker, Wall Street Journal bestselling author and creator of the renowned TEDTalk "Everyday Leadership – The Lollipop Moment", Drew Dudley. In addition to Dudley's keynote, attendees will hear a full chamber update, including recognizing the chamber's 70th anniversary, and the presentation of the 2024 Business Recognition Awards. Awards will be once again determined via live voting by attendees during the first half of the event.

"In addition to recognizing our much-deserved businesses, non-profits, and individuals, we look forward to honoring our 70th anniversary with everyone in attendance," Havlicek added. "We hope to make this one of the best events of the year and welcome the community to join us as we celebrate our legacy and cement our future in Southwest Michigan."

Business Recognition Annual Meeting Awards and Ceremony sponsors are ABC 57 News, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, Corewell Health, Honor Credit Union, Mid-West Family Southwest Michigan, MoodyOnTheMarket.com, Comcast Business, Horizon Bank, Sturgis Bank & Trust St. Joseph Banking Center, 1st Source Bank, Combined Insurance Agency/Auto-Owners Insurance, Hungerford Nichols CPAs + Advisors, Jelliefish Productions, JV Studios, Kruggel Lawton CPA, Oldham Production House, Indiana Michigan Power, South Shore Health & Racquet Club, and United Federal Credit Union. — STAFF REPORTS

Hikers plans New Year's Day excursion

The Harbor Country Hikers will hold its annual First Day hike at 1 p.m. Monday, Jan. 1.

Venues for the hike are Robinson Woods and Flynn Woods, Chikaming Open Lands properties across the street from one another in Three Oaks.

"First Day hikes are part of a nationwide effort to encourage people to get outdoors. Kids and adults across the country will be participating in First Day hikes, getting their hearts pumping and enjoying the beauty of the outdoors," hike leader and Hikers president Pat Fisher said.

Robinson Woods consists of a mature forest dominated by beech, maple, tulip poplar and oak. Flynn woods is a forested wetland complex with a mixture of oak-hickory and wetland forest. The two-mile hike is rated moderate for physical difficulty, and those who attend are urged to dress for the weather, wear sturdy shoes or boots, and bring plenty of water.

Although membership in the Hikers is preferred, all are welcome at this hike. For more information about this event, including detailed driving directions, visit www.harborcountryhikers.com or Harbor Country Hikers on Facebook. — STAFF REPORTS

Students grace the stage for annual talent show

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

As was tradition, students graced the stage for another entertaining segment of their very own Christmas version of "New Buffalo High School's Got Talent" in the New Buffalo Performing Arts Center the day before winter break began Friday, Dec. 22.

The talent show featured a wide variety of acts, from singing (students in Matt Bayley's fourth year and AP Spanish classes returned to sing their medley of Spanish Christmas carols and Martin McGinn sang "I Won't Back Down" to accompany his guitar-playing) to the playing of a variety of instruments, from the trombone to the guitar (student Alex Schaffer rocked out to "Sepultura" by Wild on the Bass). Teachers also got into the act, dressing up as masked dancers and letting students guess their identities.

For the finale, students lined up onstage for the annual ugly Christmas sweater contest, allowing everyone to show off their multi-colored and, in some cases, light up sweaters to the student body.

Ava Totzke and Han Tannehill play their instruments

Alex Schaffer rocks out to Sepultura

Staff members perform in a masked dance

Students participate in a trivia contest

Students participate in a trivia contest

Josie Humphrey plays Fade Into You on her guitar

Ashley Jager recites a poem about her cat

Matt Bayley and his class sing Spanish carols

Martin McGinn plays I Won't Back Down on his guitar

Lauren Gradowski and Ava Johnson emcee the show

Aaron Joseph plays Crazy Train on his trombone

Masked dancers take the stage

HOROSCOPE

DECEMBER 28, 2023-JANUARY 3, 2024

AS INTERPRETED BY SANDY "STAR" BENDT

ARIES MARCH 21—APRIL 19

Take some time to reflect on your life path and think about how you can adjust your career, long-term goals or commitments to be more in line with your philosophical outlook on life. When you do what you love, the money follows, and the right people show up to help you as needed.

TAURUS APRIL 20—MAY 20

Educational opportunities that pop up now and opportunities to make contacts with people who are further along in your field will help you secure a better position in the future. So, don't shy away from talking to superiors now or let inner issues keep you from asking questions.

GEMINI MAY 21—JUNE 21

You may have to take some responsibility for some previous actions or remarks. This is the time to set the record straight or tell someone how something didn't go well and where the changes need to be made. It is not a bad thing. It's the opportunity to get back on track with others.

CANCER JUNE 22—JULY 22

When it comes to relationships, you would be wise to let things develop slowly and naturally. Let your ideas and expectations move beyond present circumstances and be more outward or forward with others. Start taking more responsibility and create the life you want.

LEO JULY 23—AUGUST 22

This is a great time to make a commitment to your health and beauty routines. Any adjustments you make on the home-front to accommodate a healthier lifestyle will be easily carried throughout the year ahead. Career changes and work relationships will blossom now too.

VIRGO AUGUST 23—SEPTEMBER 22

Connect with others through a common creative goal rather than trying to sit down and converse one on one, this week. You will get a lot more information about someone's situation if you don't come at them directly. If you want to nurture and help someone, do it on the down low.

LIBRA SEPTEMBER 23—OCTOBER 22

There is a much-needed lucky vibe coming in for you this week and it will help you make good changes on the home-front. If you need to relax more, maybe it's time to put in a better bathtub. If you need to get more work done, maybe it's time to update that home office.

SCORPIO OCTOBER 23—NOVEMBER 21

Your creative juices are flowing, and you will be rich with ideas this week. You may just have the makings of a great novel or work of art caught up in that mind of yours. It's time to start talking and brainstorming with people more. Get your ideas down on paper to solidify them.

SAGITTARIUS NOVEMBER 22—DECEMBER 21

You have a wonderful vibe coming at you from the stars now. Use it to create more wealth in your life. Your insights and hunches are good. So, only take risks after you have taken the time to feel things out both mentally, and emotionally as well. Really go deep here.

CAPRICORN DECEMBER 22—JANUARY 19

This week you may start to see yourself differently or react to stimuli in a different way. You are undergoing changes on an inner level and may need to give yourself some time before you can make decisions or commit to others now. Let yourself get refresh before joining the troops.

AQUARIUS JANUARY 20—FEBRUARY 18

This is the time to let things go and put an end to situations that are costing you too much money or using up too much of your energy. The opportunity to express yourself openly and honestly is coming in this week. Put your cards on the table and don't be afraid to walk.

PISCES FEBRUARY 19—MARCH 20

Your social scene is looking very lively this week. You will feel more at ease with people and will enjoy talking and sharing your perspective. Taking the lead may be necessary in some situations, as there may be some head butting or bullying types. You'll need to be assertive.

In situations, I often feel I bring the most.
— Dino N. Fatouros

THE BENDT SHOVEL
Perennial Garden Maintenance
Sandra Bendt
(219) 874-2269

Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9.

		5			7			
	6	8				1		
							4	6
	4						5	
1						8		
	5				8			
		4	6		2			1
	1			9				5
6				4		9		

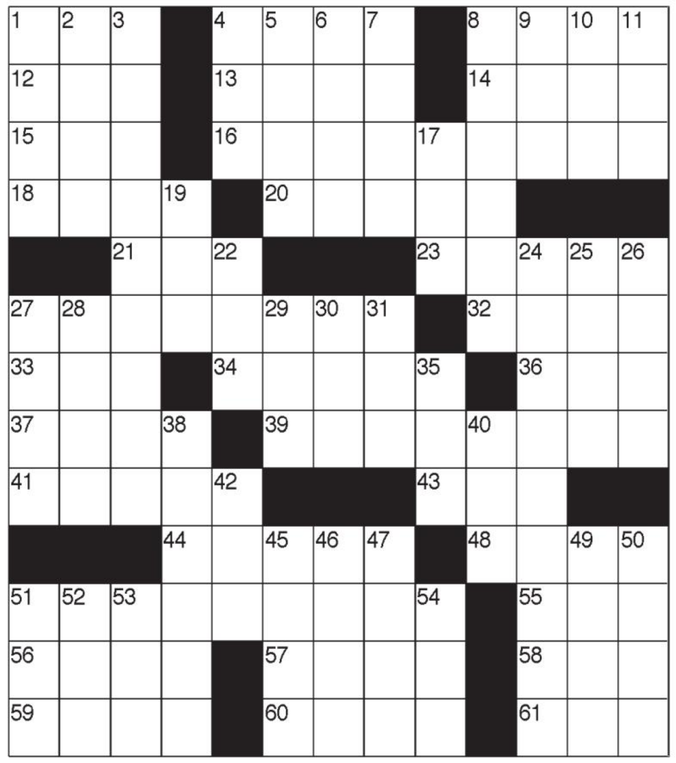
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 Distress signal
4 Student's pony
8 Build a ceiling
12 Amer. Bar Assn. (abbr.)
13 Recent (suf.)
14 Berne's river
15 Own (Scot.)
16 Kob
18 Flavor
20 Roast (Fr.)
21 Flap
23 Auspices
27 Chambered mollusk
32 Forbidden
33 Mountain on Crete
34 Dominion
36 Fr. month
37 Sleep (pref.)
39 Wind screen
41 Indo-Eur.
43 Pinch
44 "The Bartered Bride" character
48 Mountain summit (Ital.)
51 Event
55 A (Ger.)
56 Andes grass
57 River into the North Sea
58 Television channel
59 Six (Sp.)
60 Ancient Per. province
61 Vanity

DOWN

1 Hall (Ger.)
2 Fetish
3 Refuge
4 Counterclockwise (abbr.)
5 Hind
6 Within
7 Vegetable
8 Pronghorn
9 Water (Fr.)
10 Internat'l Red Cross (abbr.)
11 Grouse's courtship area
17 Inlet
19 Corrode
22 Half a quarter
24 Man (2 words)
25 Dayak people
26 Outfit
27 Caravel of Columbus
28 City in Judah
29 Fat (pref.)
30 Caribbean lizard
31 Single lens reflex (abbr.)
35 Belonging to (suf.)
38 Field (Lat.)
40 Custer's horse
42 Never (Ger.)
45 Scot. knife
46 Bank
47 Coptic clergyman
49 Chin. dynasty
50 Year (Lat.)
51 Possessive pronoun
52 Card
53 Greek letter
54 Precious stone



4	3	5	1	6	7	2	9	8
9	6	8	2	5	4	1	3	7
7	2	1	3	8	9	5	4	6
8	4	2	9	1	6	7	5	3
1	7	6	4	3	5	8	2	9
3	5	9	7	2	8	6	1	4
5	9	4	6	7	2	3	8	1
2	1	7	8	9	3	4	6	5
6	8	3	5	4	1	9	7	2

S	O	S	■	C	R	I	B	■	C	E	I	L
A	B	A	■	C	E	N	E	■	A	A	R	E
A	I	N	■	W	A	T	E	R	B	U	C	K
L	A	C	E	■	R	O	T	I	R	■	■	■
■	■	T	A	B	■	■	■	A	E	G	I	S
N	A	U	T	I	L	U	S	■	T	A	B	U
I	D	A	■	T	I	T	L	E	■	M	A	I
N	A	R	C	■	P	A	R	A	V	E	N	T
A	R	Y	A	N	■	■	■	N	I	P	■	■
■	■	■	M	I	S	H	A	■	C	I	M	A
H	A	P	P	E	N	I	N	G	■	E	I	N
I	C	H	U	■	E	L	B	E	■	C	N	N
S	E	I	S	■	E	L	A	M	■	E	G	O

RIOS
PREMIUM MEXICAN CUISINE
NEW BUFFALO

Clothing • Accessories • Gifts
the Love Spell boutique
7 E Clay Street | New Buffalo, MI
At the Corner of Whittaker & Clay

Students spread holiday cheer during annual concert

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

Students at New Buffalo Elementary School got family and friends - and themselves - ready for the holiday during their annual holiday music concert, which was held at the New Buffalo Performing Arts Center Wednesday, Dec. 20.

Third, fourth and fifth graders sang through a series of tunes gearing everyone up for the upcoming holiday, from "Oh Mr. Santa," "I Feel like La La La" and "Christmas Cookies." In "One Candle," students held battery-powered candles and sang of instilling peace in everyone for Christmas Day.

The production was directed by Janelle Foulk, the elementary school music teacher.

Students start Christmastime on a high note

Students sing of good cheer

Students sing One Candle

Students sing The Candy Cane Twist

Students spread holiday cheer at their concert

Students ring in the holiday with song

The best of healers is good cheer. — *Pindar*

Police uncover a black market white Christmas

BY STAN MADDUX

Close to 10 pounds of cocaine turned up during a traffic stop Wednesday, Dec. 20, on the Indiana Toll Road in La Porte County.

Juan Aquino, 52, of Elizabeth, New Jersey, is charged in La Porte Circuit Court with Level 2 felony dealing in cocaine or a narcotic drug.

According to court documents, a La Porte County Police officer monitoring traffic spotted an eastbound Honda Civic tailgating another driver about 12 p.m. outside La Porte near the 46 mile marker.

After the officer caught up to the vehicle five miles later near Rolling Prairie, Aquino was still traveling less than one car length behind the other driver, police said.

During a traffic stop, police said the officer's suspicions were raised by how nervous Aquino seemed to be judging by his rapid, shallow breathing and the reason he gave for traveling not adding up.

Other red flags included the presence of sheets that prevent static cling on clothes in the dryer and a Bible in plain view.

Police said laundry sheets in vehicles containing little to no laundry are often used to mask the smell of narcotics while Bibles are placed out in the open by some criminals to give law enforcement the impression they're good people.

With help from a K-9 dog, police said two kilograms of cocaine each in rectangular shaped blocks wrapped in cellophane were seized from underneath the back seat.

Two more kilos of cocaine packaged the same way were found when a cover was removed near the gift shift, center console area of the vehicle.

La Porte County Police Chief of Detectives Andy Hynek said one kilo weighs 2.5 pounds.

He estimated the value of the drugs conservatively at about $30,000.

"That's a pretty substantial amount," Hynek said.

No light was shed on where he allegedly obtained the drugs but receipts on purchases show he had been in Colorado two days prior to his arrest, court documents revealed.

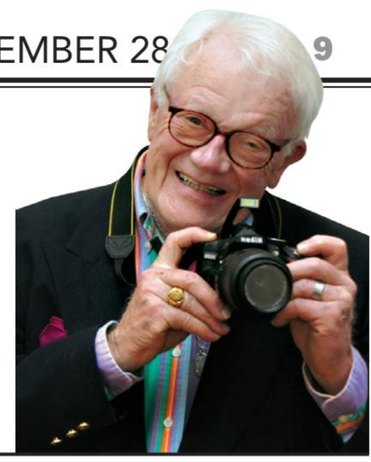
Aquino was being held in the La Porte County Jail on $50,000 bond.

He could face anywhere from a 10 to 30 year sentence.

A Day in the Life

AN INSANE CHRISTMAS (SORT OF)

BY LAWRENCE VON EBELER



I have little cause to make this so important to me. I am quick to say that about others who I think are out of control. Those are the folks who light up the house and landscaping, with millions of lights all over their homes and shrubs. Far be it from me to find that objectionable.

Thanks to a little help from my friend, who works for me, I had my tree up and decorated the day after Thanksgiving. "Olive" did the whole thing, as I sat and watched her through the whole exercise! To know the details is not only boring but pathetic and that I would think otherwise is sort of sad, to say the least. Back home on the farm, it was the lowest form of creativity and expression for a holiday greeting and decorations. Some folks' expressions occur with millions of flashing lights and loud music blasting away. Festive, but overdone (to me).

Growing up on the farm, purchasing the tree was always exciting - until we had to buy the cheapest, scrawniest tree on the lot. My mother assured us it would be "lovely" once it was decorated. In spite of our spartan selection of decorations we had for the trim, which included our shop-worn old ornaments, that was mostly true. The ornaments from the tattered box were a sad collection, with too few lights to look festive. But the truth of the matter was that we thought it was almost okay - we had no apologies for the few lights and decorations that were far from an excellent collection. There were those old, flimsy icicles that we saved from year to year and were miserable for storage. We never did have a tree topper. But it was a Christmas tree, and we were happy about that.

One year, I remember walking on our way to milk the cows, which we did before anything else. My dad asked me, "'What did you want for Christmas?" Timidly, I answered "A train." "You know, Santa probably can't afford that, so don't count on it" was Dad's response. I accepted that with disappointment and cried a little when I was alone and feeding the calves. We went ahead and milked the cows and fed the cats warm milk before returning to the house, getting in our pajamas and finally opening the gifts after breakfast! We entered the living room. There, under the tree, was a beautiful train running around it! I will remember that moment until the day I die. Santa indeed came through!

Years later, I married a Christmas tree aficionado. It would take her three days to just put the lights on. Each wire had to wrap the branch that held the lights, and each bulb had to be nestled just right on the branch; however, when she finished, it was gorgeous! I lived with a genius for Christmas tree decorations. There are trade offs for everything aren't there?

One year, we decided to decorate the tree with cookies that we made. If you have never made homemade cookies, don't! They are so difficult, so maddeningly challenging to do a decent job, with getting the decorating done for the hair, little lips and hands. Then, if you're hanging them on the tree, you have to put little strings on them. After spending two days making those little suckers we were ready to hang them by their little deserving necks! So we did and they looked so cute and so original that we then decided to also use real candles! Should I go further? It was so clearly dangerous that we shot a few photos and quickly removed them!

We then decided to take the cookies "on the road" to two of the kids. While we were in Toronto and New York, we decided that we should also visit my sister and family, who lived in New Jersey. When we got back home, we flew to Los Angeles to visit Bobbie's folks and attend the Rose Bowl parade and the game, with our University of Michigan playing. We then stayed for a New Year's Eve party in Beverly Hills with friends, who owned one of the most famous restaurants in the world, The London Chop House. It was fun but exhausting: We were glad to get home and in our own bed! Bobbie is gone now and I am so glad we did it.

Now, I am wishing a very Happy New Year to you and yours!

INTEGRITY • EXPERIENCE • SUCCESS

L & B

LAROSE & BOSCO, LTD.
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

CHICAGO, IL • NEW BUFFALO, MI
MARK A. LAROSE
mlarose@laroseboscolaw.com

Real Estate, Business Law, Commercial Transactions, Injury Law

New Buffalo: (269) 469-8440
Chicago: (312) 642-4414

Calvary Chapel New Buffalo

CALVARYCHAPELNB.ORG

We are a non-denominational church teaching through the bible line by line
Sunday service 1015 ET
Thursday bible study 7pm ET
Saturday men's bible study 915 ET in person and zoom
Saturday women's bible study 1030 ET on zoom
1615 E Buffalo St. New Buffalo, Mi

SERVICE DIRECTORY

ADVERTISE ON THIS PAGE
PLEASE CONTACT JANINE L. ADAMSKI
JANINEADAMSKI@GMAIL.COM
(630) 370-0820

Web Design Genesis

Genesis Web Design
St Joseph, MI
269.429.7014

Design • Maintenance • Hosting

Local IT Service for Your Business

Equipment installations, upgrades, repairs, wifi issues, data backup, security, and much more. No need to call anywhere else, when the best is already right here.

NEED A NERD

269-612-4648

Read customer reviews at www.need-a-nerd.net

Member of the New Buffalo Business Association

Amish Built Barns LLC
Largest Amish Dealer in SW Michigan

AmishBuiltBarns.com • 269-876-1323 • 2305 M-139, Benton Harbor, MI
(Old Blossom Lanes Bowling Alley)

PROFESSIONALS IN ALL OF YOUR TREE CARE NEEDS

MAPLE CITY TREE SPECIALISTS

REMOVAL
TRIMMING
PRESERVATION
STORM DAMAGE
FIREWOOD
LOT CLEARING
SNOW PLOWING

FREE ESTIMATES
Commercial • Residential
37 Years Experience • Insured

DENNIS JEFFERS, SR.
219-393-3155
maplecitytree@comcast.net

ABUSE HOTLINE

Sexual Abuse Hotline: 855-779-6495
Domestic Violence Hotline: 269-925-9500
TheAvenue.ngo/CoraLampingCenter

Cora Lamping Center • The Pokagon Fund Supported

The Howard Levy 4 to perform benefit concert for the School of American Music

The Howard Levy 4, led by Howard Levy, a multi-Grammy award winner, will be performing a benefit concert for the non-profit School of American Music at 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 27, at The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, in Three Oaks.

The band consists of Howard Levy on harmonica and piano, Chris Siebold on guitar, Josh Ramos on bass and Luiz Ewerling on drums. The band performs original music in styles Jazz, Brazilian, Latin, World Music, Blues and more, and creates a volatile mix of styles with hot, soulful playing and deep grooves.

Tickets are $100 and can be purchased on The Acorn's website www.acornlive.org.

Levy is a world-renowned harmonica player, pianist and composer. He has played with many of the world's top musicians, vocalists and bands, including Steely Dan, Kenny Loggins, Bela Fleck and the Flecktones, Trio Globo, Paquito D'Rivera, and he has led many bands as well.

Siebold, house guitarist for five years on A Prairie Home Companion, is a member of internationally renowned fusion band Kick the Cat, and has played with many notable musicians around the world. He brings intensity, soul and his incredible technique to any style of music.

Ramos, virtuosic and versatile bassist, is equally at home on upright and electric. He was Ramsey Lewis' bass player for five years and the bassist for CALJE, Chicago's premier modern Latin/jazz ensemble.

Ewerling, renowned drummer/composer, is one of the top Brazilian drummers living in the United States. He contributes rhythmic depth and passion to whatever music he plays.

The concert is a benefit for the restricted Future Fund endowment for the School of American Music, a 501(c)(3) organization.

"The restricted purpose of the fund is to compensate a future executive management when the volunteers who currently do the job are no longer in a position to do so. There could not be a better, or more responsible investment to make to guarantee the future of low-cost music education in our area," founder Garth Taylor said.

For more information, please visit the School of American Music website www.schoolofamericanmusic.com or contact the school at 269-409-1191 or schoolofamericanmusic@gmail.com.

— STAFF REPORTS

BUILDER SERVICE RETAIL
Pristine POOL & SPA, LLC
COME CHECK OUT OUR SHOWROOM!
18703 W US Hwy 12, New Buffalo, MI • 269.426.1251
info@pristinepoolspa.com
facebook.com/pristinepoolspa
pristinepoolspa.com
IG: @pristinepoolandspa

Shop with confidence.
Learn more about Everwise credit cards at everwisecu.com/creditcards
everwise CREDIT UNION

Subject to membership requirements and credit approval. Federally insured by NCUA.

AT YOUR SERVICE
A COMPANY OF CRAFTSMEN
WWW.ATYOURSERVICE.BUILDERS
T.269.358.8159
CUSTOM: HOMES | RENOVATION | COMMERCIAL

FEEL AT EASE WITH McGHEE'S
McGHEE'S
Heating & Air Conditioning, LLC
SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATION
EMERGENCY SERVICE • LICENSED & INSURED

FREE
Ecobee 3 Thermostat; Aprilaire Media Air Cleaner; plus 1 Year FREE C.A.R.E. Club Maintenance Program with installation of a furnace.
Carrier
Turn to the experts
269-466-0123
7301 Red Arrow Hwy., Stevensville, MI 49127

Auto-Owners INSURANCE
LIFE • HOME • CAR • BUSINESS

Harbor Country Insurance Agency

Gregory A. Bubb, CIC
269-469-4438
212 S Whittaker St.
New Buffalo, MI

www.HARBORCOUNTRYINSURANCE.com

Passaro, Kahne, Taylor, DeFrancesco, & Thompson
LAW OFFICES your local common-sense legal team

685 West Main Street, Benton Harbor, MI 49022 | (269) 983-0325 | passarokahne.com
17656A US Highway 12, New Buffalo, MI 49117 | (269) 469-5297 | Fax: (269) 983-0328

- Business/Tax Law
- Estate Planning
- Medicaid & Long-Term Care Planning
- Real Estate
- Special Needs Planning
- Probate and Trust Administration

Trust It To Be Wonderful

16409 Red Arrow Highway | Union Pier

MONDAYS:
ALL BURGERS
Buy 1 Get One
50% off
With purchase of 2 soft drinks

AL FUEGO
GRILL & BAR
MEXICAN RESTAURANT

BREAKFAST
SERVED DAILY

OPEN DAILY 8AM-9PM
18529 Harbor Country Drive
NEW BUFFALO
www.alfuegogrillbar.online

JOURNEYMAN PRESENTS

NYE 2024

TWO LOCATIONS, TWO CELEBRATIONS

MUSIC | COCKTAILS | MIDNIGHT TOAST

CELEBRATE WITH YOUR LOVED ONES AT ONE OF OUR LOCATIONS. JOIN THE PARTY IN THREE OAKS, MI OR VALPARAISO, IN AND LET'S RING IN THE NEW YEAR TOGETHER!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31 | 9PM-12:30AM | BOTH LOCATIONS

TICKETS + RESERVATIONS

JOURNEYMAN
THREE OAKS, MI | VALPARAISO, IN